

## BOOK REVIEWS

**Newer Views of Skin Diseases.** Edited by HOWARD S. YAFFEE, M.D. 1966. Pp. 283, 3 figs, Churchill, London. (57s. 6d.)

This is an important and interesting book. It contains an up-to-date account and review of nineteen subjects in dermatology by a variety of American authorities. The aim of the editor is to make available an accurate and readable account and assessment of recent investigative and clinical work for doctors wishing to remain informed about the rapid advances in this field of medicine. The book covers a wide variety of subjects, many of them common dermatological problems, such as the treatment of psoriasis, acne vulgaris, erythema multiforme and the treatment of skin cancer, but also explores more highly specialized fields such as mucosal allergy, the superficial lymphatics and the role of basophil leucocytes in dermatology.

There is much that will be of value to the specialist in venereology in this volume. An accurate and up-to-date chapter on candidosis is supplemented by a chapter on practical methods in diagnosis of fungal diseases in dermatology. An instructive chapter on the biology of the wart virus is followed by an original article on corticosteroid topical therapy. There is also a chapter on the treatment of syphilis by Nicholas Fuimara of Boston.

The book is well produced in an attractive paperback style and printed in very clear type. There is an extremely complete index. The standard of writing is generally high and each chapter has a brief, up-to-date bibliography. Some of the opinions and advice on treatment quite naturally reflect current American practices and differ somewhat from methods generally used in Britain. For example,

most British physicians would question the necessity for repeated tests of the cerebrospinal fluid in patients under surveillance for treated primary and secondary syphilis or for those with treated latent syphilis. Other differences are the importance given to oestrogen therapy in the treatment of acne vulgaris and of diet in the management of psoriasis.

The venereologist who wishes to keep his medical interests as wide as possible and remain abreast of modern developments in fields of medicine which overlap his own, is recommended to read this excellent book and it should be available in all good medical libraries.

*R. D. Catterall.*

**Year Book of Dermatology, 1965-66 Series.** Edited by A. W. KOPF and R. ANDRADE. 1966. Pp. 509, ill. Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd., London. (75s.).

The leading paper this year is a review of benign juvenile melanoma by the new editors. In the rest of the book major published work in dermatology which has appeared since September, 1965, is summarized and commented on. For the first time there is a short list of review articles and other references which are not otherwise dealt with in the text. Also for the first time, the editors indicate that informed editorial comment on every aspect of dermatology is no longer possible for one or two editors, and they have called on colleagues to appraise articles in their particular field. For venereologists this year's book is as disappointing as some of its predecessors, as only five pages (1 per cent. of the text) deal with venereal diseases.

*G.W.C.*

## NOTES

### VI IBERO-LATIN AMERICAN DERMATOLOGY CONGRESS

This Congress will be held in Barcelona from July 24 to 27, 1967. Particulars may be obtained from the Congress Secretary, Dr J. Piñol Aguadé, Faculty of Medicine, Casanova, 143, Barcelona (11), Spain.

### GIFT TO THE M.S.S.V.D. LIBRARY

"A System of Syphilis" (5 vols), by D'Arcy Power and Keogh Murphy.  
Presented by Dr Joan Seaman.